

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. - 21. (Canceled)

22. (Previously Presented) A process:

coating at least one surface of least one of a heat sink and of a die with a metal;  
oxidizing carbon nanotubes ropes in sulfuric and nitric acids, whereby the carbon nanotubes ropes are cut into a plurality of short carbon nanotubes with open ends having carboxyl linkages attached thereto;

treating at least one end of at least some of a plurality of carbon nanotubes by applying organic moieties thereto; and

tethering one end of the at least some of the carbon nanotubes of the plurality of carbon nanotubes to the metal.

23. (Original) The process of claim 22 wherein the metal is selected from the group consisting of gold and gold alloys.

24. (Original) The process of claim 23, wherein the treating the at least one end of some of the plurality of nanotubes comprises forming an amide based linkage thereon.

25. (Original) The process of claim 23, wherein the treating the at least one end of some of the plurality of nanotubes comprises forming an amide based linkage and a thiol based linkage thereon.

26. - 30. (Canceled)